

Serial No. 09/483,816

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Claims**No claim is amended in this Amendment:**

1. (previously presented) A network comprising:
  - 2 at least three nodes, and
  - 3 each node comprising a transmitter for transmitting, to other nodes, timing for a plurality of transmission opportunities of said node and for transmitting at at least one of said transmission opportunities to initiate data transmission to another node, and
  - 6 each of at least two of said nodes comprising logic for holding data indicative of an expected time and an expected frequency of at least one future transmission opportunity of each of a plurality of nodes, and
  - 9 each of said at least two of said nodes comprising a receiver for receiving transmissions at transmission opportunities of at least one of said plurality of nodes.
1. (original) The network of claim 1 wherein:
  - 2 said transmission opportunities are at time intervals and frequencies that are determined according to at least one sequence that is unique for each said node.
  1. (original) The network of claim 1 wherein:
    - 2 said transmitter is for transmitting said timing by transmitting beacons at time intervals and frequencies that are determined according to at least one sequence that is unique for each said node.
    1. (original) A method of operating a network comprising:
      - 2 transmitting, from each node, timing for a plurality of transmission opportunities of said node, and transmitting at at least one of said transmission opportunities to initiate data transmission to another node, and
      - 5 holding, each of at least two of said nodes, data indicative of an expected time and an expected frequency of at least one future transmission opportunity of each of a plurality of nodes, and
      - 7 receiving, at each of said at least two of said nodes, transmissions at transmission opportunities of at least one of said plurality of nodes.
    1. (original) The method of claim 4 further comprising:
      - 2 determining time intervals and frequencies of said transmission opportunities, at each said node, according to at least one sequence that is unique for each said node.
      1. (original) The method of claim 4 further comprising:
        - 2 transmitting said timing by transmitting beacons at time intervals and frequencies that are determined according to at least one sequence that is unique for each said node.

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- 1        7. (original) A network node comprising:
  - 2            a transmitter for transmitting, to other nodes, timing for a plurality of transmission opportunities
  - 3            of said node and for transmitting at at least one of said transmission opportunities to initiate data
  - 4            transmission to another node, and
  - 5            logic for holding data indicative of an expected time and an expected frequency of at least one
  - 6            future transmission opportunity of each of a plurality of nodes, and
  - 7            a receiver for receiving transmissions at transmission opportunities of at least one of said plurality
  - 8            of nodes.
- 1        8. (original) The node of claim 7 wherein:
  - 2            said transmission opportunities are at time intervals and frequencies that are determined
  - 3            according to at least one sequence that is individual for said node.
- 1        9. (original) The node of claim 7 wherein:
  - 2            said transmitter is for transmitting said timing by transmitting beacons at time intervals and
  - 3            frequencies that are determined according to at least one sequence that is individual for said node.
- 1        10. (original) A method of operating a network node comprising:
  - 2            transmitting, to other nodes, timing for a plurality of transmission opportunities of said node, and
  - 3            transmitting at at least one of said transmission opportunities to initiate data transmission to another node,
  - 4            and
  - 5            holding data indicative of an expected time and an expected frequency of at least one future
  - 6            transmission opportunity of each of a plurality of nodes, and
  - 7            receiving transmissions at transmission opportunities of at least one of said plurality of nodes.
- 1        11. (original) The method of claim 10 further comprising:
  - 2            determining time intervals and frequencies of said transmission opportunities, at said node,
  - 3            according to at least one sequence that is individual for said node.
- 1        12. (original) The method of claim 10 further comprising:
  - 2            transmitting said timing by transmitting beacons at time intervals and frequencies that are
  - 3            determined according to at least one sequence that is individual for said node.
- 1        13. (original) A network comprising:
  - 2            at least three nodes, and
  - 3            each node comprising a transmitter for transmitting data according to timing for transmissions,
  - 4            wherein said node is capable of producing said timing for transmissions in the absence of any information
  - 5            of other nodes timing, and

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6        each of at least two of said nodes comprising a receiver for receiving transmissions from each of  
7        a plurality of said nodes, and said receiver comprising a tracking mechanism for tracking  
8        contemporaneously timing for transmissions of each of a plurality of said nodes.

1        14. (original) The network of claim 13 wherein:

2        said tracking mechanism comprises logic for holding data indicative of an expected time and an  
3        expected frequency of at least one future beacon transmission from each of a plurality of nodes.

1        15 (original) The network of claim 13 wherein:

2        said transmitter is for transmitting said timing for transmissions by transmitting beacons at time  
3        intervals and frequencies that are determined according to at least one sequence that is unique for each  
4        said node.

1        16. (original) The network of claim 13 wherein:

2        said transmitter is for transmitting said data at time intervals and frequencies that are determined  
3        according to at least one sequence that is unique for each said node.

1        17. (original) A method of operating a network comprising:

2        producing, at each node, timing for transmissions that is independent of other nodes' timings for  
3        transmissions, and transmitting data according to said timing, and  
4        tracking, at said each node, contemporaneously timing for transmission of a plurality of nodes,  
5        and

6        receiving transmissions, at said each node, from at least one of said plurality of nodes in  
7        accordance with said tracking.

1        18. (original) The method of claim 17 further comprising:

2        holding, at said each node, data indicative of an expected time and an expected frequency of at  
3        least one future transmission from each of a plurality of nodes.

1        19 (original) A network node comprising:

2        a transmitter for transmitting data according to timing for transmissions, wherein said node is  
3        capable of producing said timing for transmissions in the absence of any information of other nodes'  
4        timing, and

5        a receiver for receiving transmissions from each of a plurality of nodes, and said receiver  
6        comprising a tracking mechanism for tracking contemporaneously timing for transmissions of each of a  
7        plurality of nodes.

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**20. (original) The node of claim 19 wherein:**

1        said tracking mechanism comprises logic for holding data indicative of an expected time and an  
2        expected frequency of at least one future beacon transmission from each of a plurality of nodes.

1        **21. (original) The node of claim 19 wherein:**

2        said transmitter is for transmitting said timing for transmissions by transmitting beacons at time  
3        intervals and frequencies that are determined according to at least one sequence that is individual for said  
4        node.

1        **22. (original) The node of claim 19 wherein:**

2        said transmitter is for transmitting said data at time intervals and frequencies that are determined  
3        according to at least one sequence that is individual for said node.

1        **23. (previously presented) A method of operating a network node comprising:**

2        producing timing for transmissions that is independent of other nodes' timings for transmissions,  
3        and transmitting data according to said timing, and  
4        tracking contemporaneously timing for transmission of each of a plurality of nodes, and  
5        receiving transmissions from at least one of said plurality of nodes in accordance with said  
6        tracking.

1        **24. (original) The method of claim 23 further comprising:**

2        holding data indicative of an expected time and an expected frequency of at least one future  
3        transmission from each of a plurality of nodes.